

REMARKS

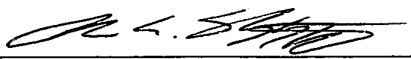
Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough examination of the present application evidenced by the detailed Final Office Action, and the allowance of Claims 4 and 8. In response, Applicants have canceled Claim 1 and amended Claims 2, 3, 13, and 16 to depend from Claim 4. Claims 5-7, 9-12, and 14-15 were canceled in Applicants' previously submitted amendment of July 8, 2004. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claims 2-4, 8, 13, and 16 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants also appreciate the indication that Claim 28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. In response, Applicants have rewritten Claim 28 by amending Claim 17 to include the recitations of Claims 25, 26, 27, and 28. Claims 20, 24, and 32 have been amended to depend from Claim 17 based on the amendments thereto, and Claims 25-28, 34, 36-39, and 42-44 have been canceled. Claims 19, 22, and 40-41 were canceled in Applicants' amendment of July 8, 2004. As such, Applicants submit that Claims 17-18, 20-21, 23-24, 29-33, and 35 are also in condition for allowance.

Based on the above amendments, Applicants submit that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants, therefore, request allowance of the claims and passing of the application to issue in due course. Applicants encourage the Examiner to contact the undersigned by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 14, 2005


Rohan G. Sabapathypillai
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 51,074

USPTO Customer No. 20792
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec
Post Office Box 37428
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627
Telephone: 919/854-1400
Facsimile: 919/854-1401